

Kootenai National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2018

A Safer Boating Experience



The Yaak River Campground received a new boat ramp on the Kootenai River below its confluence with the Yaak River. The Forest worked in conjunction with the Army Corp of Engineers at Libby Dam who donated 75 concrete pavers that weighed 1200 pounds each. This new boat ramp creates a hardened access point to the river providing better safety and reducing erosion. The Forest spent about \$3,000 in recreation fee funds to improve the site.

Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. They support and enhance:

- Public safety
- Recreation site maintenance and improvements
- Educational experiences
- Informational wayside exhibits
- Youth programs and partnerships
- Interpretive programs

Current and future generations benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.



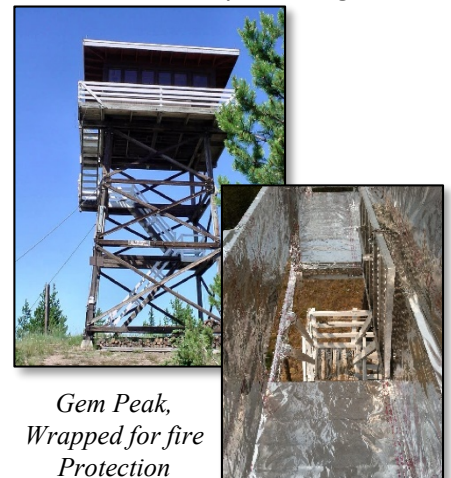
Supplying Power

Timberlane Campground is located along a forested creek and offers users a great opportunity for large family gatherings. This year the Forest brought in a new power line from the main road to better ensure consistent power at the pavilion and host site. The Forest spent \$10,000 of recreation fee and appropriated funds to upgrade power to this site.



Shiny Wrapping

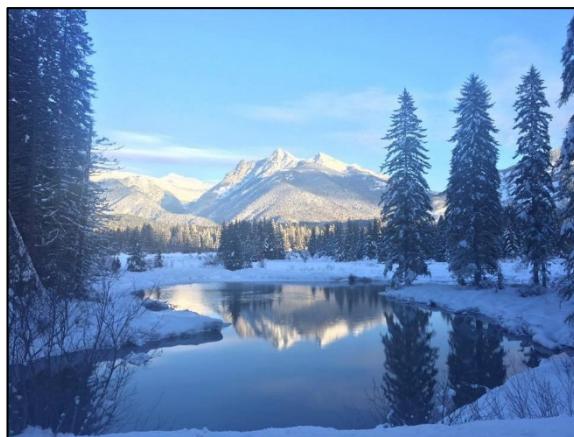
The Forest wrapped Gem Peak Lookout in metallic fire protection material during a high fire danger situation in 2018. The wrapping has the look of aluminum foil and reflects heat away from the structure. After the fire danger situation ended, the Forest improved the lookout by installing a new lightweight aluminum door; repairing, painting and glazing windows; and repairing the catwalk, railings and under supports.



*Gem Peak,
Wrapped for fire
Protection*

Other Accomplishments

- Maintained fee sites and provided services such as mowing, painting, collecting trash, cleaning, pumping toilets and septic tanks, and providing utilities.
- Increased safety by removing hazard trees and limbs, testing drinking water, repairing propane lines and leveling camp sites to prevent tripping.
- Supported volunteers, including 19 campground host sites. Hosts provide information about the area, appropriate use of public lands and instill an appreciation for the area's natural and cultural history.
- Cut and delivered firewood to fee campgrounds.
- Maintained numerous recreation facilities.
- Installed new toilet doors at Peck Gulch and Rocky Gorge Campgrounds.
- Replaced beds, heaters and lights in Mount Baldy Buckhorn Ridge and Yaak Mountain Lookouts.
- Repaired sewage pump at Rexford Bench Campground.



View of the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness as seen from the Bull Lake Highway

Northern Region



Contacts

Kootenai National Forest
Recreation Fee Program Contact
406-293-6211
 Email: mary.laws@usda.gov
 Online: www.fs.usda.gov/kootenai

Regional Contact
406-329-3587
 Email: jeffrey.p.ward@usda.gov

Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$242,324	\$2,117,599
Special Uses	\$45,372	\$1,174,340
Interagency Passes	\$2,580	\$138,219
Total	\$290,276	\$3,430,158
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$63,272	\$1,728,460
Visitor Services	\$89,897	\$750,600
Law Enforcement	\$2,255	\$71,503
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$71,072
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$0
Collections/Overhead	\$4,595	\$363,714
Total	\$160,019	\$2,985,349